

Size: 2,016 acres
Mission: Provide base of support for one fighter wing, one refueling wing, and one airlift group
HRS Score: 50.00; proposed for NPL in January 1994
IAG Status: None
Contaminants: Pesticides, paint, spent fuel, waste oil, solvents, and heavy metals
Media Affected: Groundwater and soil
Funding to Date: \$22.1 million
Estimated Cost to Completion (Completion Year): \$3.7 million (FY2016)
Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for BRAC Sites: FY2001



Columbus, Ohio

Restoration Background

July 1991, the BRAC commission recommended closure of Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base. In July 1993, realignment was recommended rather than base closure. The installation was realigned on September 30, 1994. Rickenbacker was recommended for listing on the National Priorities List (NPL) because of the potential effects of contamination on underlying groundwater, which supplies drinking water to 150,000 residents in nearby communities.

A Restoration Advisory Board formed and a basewide Environmental Baseline Survey was completed in FY94. In FY95, the final Environmental Impact Statement was published and a Record of Decision (ROD) was signed.

From FY96 through FY97, a supplemental Remedial Investigation (RI) and report were completed. Remedial Actions (RAs) included removal of 59 underground storage tanks (USTs), 28 aboveground storage tanks (ASTs), and asbestos; closure of abandoned fuel lines; and demolition of the heat and water plant lagoons. A Treatability Study and a risk assessment began at the former hazardous waste storage area (HWSA) to investigate potential risk-based closure of the facility. No Further Remedial Action Planned (NFRAP) documents were signed for 16 Installation Restoration Program (IRP) sites and 3 areas of concern (AOCs). Seven other IRP sites were closed with regulatory concurrence. A 30-acre parcel was transferred to the Army reserves, and the sale of 1.3 acres to the local power company was completed.

FY98 Restoration Progress

The installation published a final Phase II RI report, a draft final Feasibility Study (FS) for five IRP sites, and a draft scientific management position paper on the ecological risk for the basewide storm drainage system (Site 25). Twelve NFRAP documents were signed, covering nine IRP sites and three AOCs. A long-term lease was signed with the Local Redevelopment Authority (LRA) for 1,660 acres of real property. An amended closure plan for the former HWSA (IRP Site 1) was submitted to Ohio EPA.

RAs included removal of three USTs at Facility 544 and contaminated soil at two former gas stations, Sites 6 and 45. Final investigations for site assessments of petroleum-contaminated soil were conducted along an abandoned fuel line, at two pump houses, and at Facility 544. Remedial Design (RD) for five IRP sites began.

Plan of Action

- Publish final FS and complete Proposed Plan, RA decision document, and RD for five IRP sites in FY99. Initiate RAs at all five sites
- Resolve ecorisk issue at Site 25 and reevaluate the closure plan for HWSA (Site 1) for other possible remediation
- Complete the Remedial Action Plans and accomplish RAs for petroleum contamination at the abandoned fuel line and two pump houses
- Achieve response complete at 6 additional IRP sites

- Complete the finding of suitability to transfer (FOST) and the transfer of parcels D1.A to the LRA (approximately 1,310 acres)
- Complete the finding of suitability to transfer (FOST) and the transfer of parcel D1.A to the LRA, for a total transfer of approximately 1,370 acres

SITES ACHIEVING RIP OR RC PER FISCAL YEAR

